GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:201
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2002
NATIONALISATION OF RIVERS
GADDAM GANGA REDDY

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the Union Government for nationalization of all Inter-State rivers as a long term solution to resolve the disputes over sharing of rivers water;

(b) if so, whether the Government has been urged to ensure that awards given by various tribunals are honoured; and

(c) if so, the response of the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO THE REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE STARRED QUESTION NO.201 TO BE ANSWERED ON 2.12.2002 IN LOK SABHA REGARDING NATIONALISATION OF RIVERS.

(a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c) However, the State of Tamil Nadu has filed an Original Suit No. 3 of 2002 before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Indiain July, 2002 against the State of Karnataka and Union of Indiafor declaring the notification of the Cauvery River Authority (CRA) ineffective and directing the Central Government to frame either a new scheme in substitution/replacement of the existing CRA or an additional scheme making adequate provisions therein for all matters necessary to give effect to the interim order dated 25.6.91 passed by the Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal (CWDT). Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has been writing to the Prime Minister making requests on similar lines as the prayers made in the said suit. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has passeda series of Orders in the Applications filed in the said Suit from July, 2002 onwards for ensuring implementation of the interim order of the CWDT as also directing the State of Karnataka for releasing water from its reservoirs to ensure definite quantity of water in Mettur reservoir of Tamil Nadu. The CRA has held 3 meetings from July, 2002 onwards for ensuring implementation of interim order of the CWDT. The Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 has been amended on March 28, 2002 to provide for time-bound adjudication of disputes by the Tribunals. Also as per the amended Act, the decision of the Tribunal, after its publication in the Official Gazette, shall have the same force as an order or decree of the Supreme Court.